

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
and  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agr'l. Statistics  
Agricultural Extension Service  
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4-1-58

Week Ending 3-31-58

**WEATHER** The week was cool over the south-central and southwestern portions of the state, where temperatures averaged about 5° above normal, but temperatures were seasonable elsewhere. A marked change to the warmer overspread the state during the end of the week. Total precipitation ranged from none over the extreme northeastern portion of the state to nearly an inch at Holdrege and Sidney. Most of it fell Friday and Saturday, as rain in the east, rain and slushy snow in the central, and as snow over the Panhandle, where Sidney received 7 inches of new snow. Wind movement was unusually light.

**CROPS** Spring seeding of small grains started on a small scale in extreme southeastern counties, but in most sections of the state soils were still too wet for field work. Less than one percent of the oats and barley was planted by the end of last week. Ordinarily about two-fifths of these crops are seeded by April 1. Full scale activity is about to start in the eastern third of the state, but rains early this week will cause further postponement in some localities. Extremely muddy conditions prevail in the south-central counties where 2 or 3 weeks of drying weather are needed to permit soils to be worked. Here spring work is far behind schedule. In some sections, it may be too late to seed spring small grains by the time soils can be tilled. This may cause a shift to later planted crops.

Wheat began to "green up" noticeably in eastern Nebraska toward the end of the week. The crop appears to have withstood the winter and emerged in good to excellent condition with only light abandonment. Other winter grain crops are also promising. In the central and western counties wheat was mostly dormant but starting to show signs of spring growth. Pasture and hay crops have an ample to abundant supply of moisture to start the season.

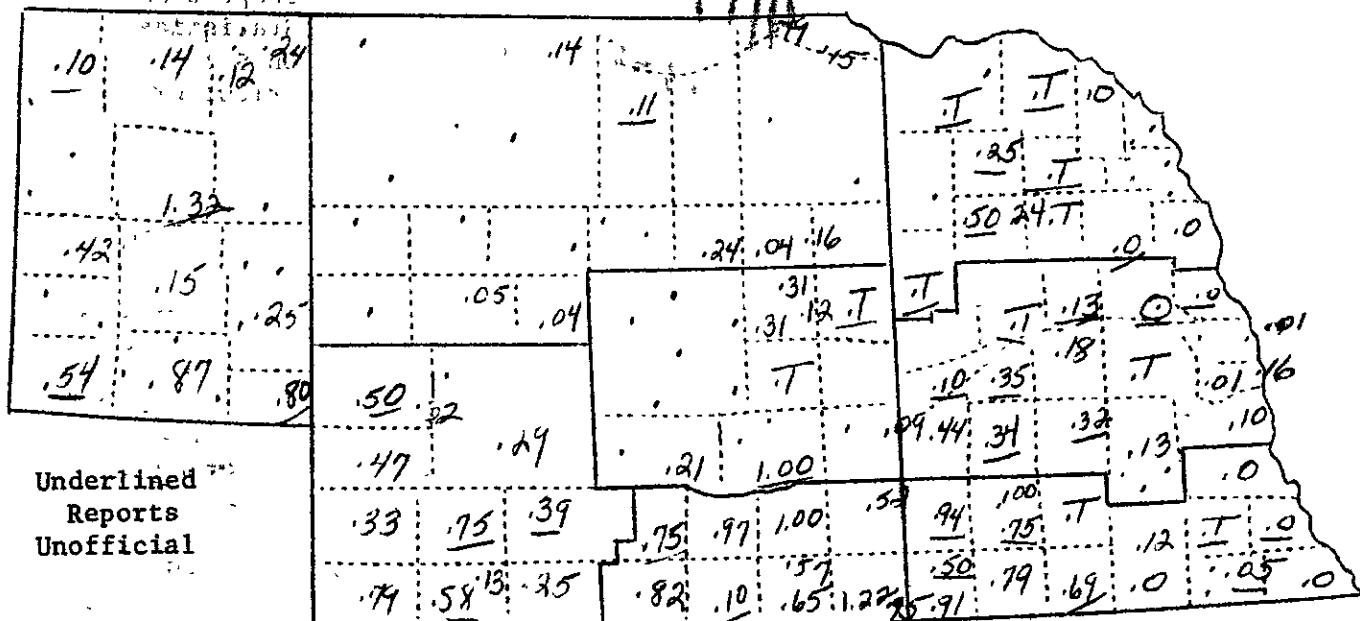
High moisture grain is still a major problem. Much drying activity continued throughout the week as farmers endeavored to reduce the moisture content to a safekeeping point. A few fields of corn and sorghums remain for harvest.

**LIVESTOCK** Feed lots were beginning to dry out in eastern Nebraska, but excessive mud continued to hamper livestock operations in south-central and southwestern counties, holding up feeding and marketing. Producers were having difficulty caring for new-born calves and pigs and some losses are being experienced. Production rates have been lowered, especially feed-lot gains. However, cattle on feed were making a good recovery in eastern feeding sections as feed lots began to dry out. Some reports of disappointing litter sizes indicate ill-effects of prolonged cool, wet conditions. Prospects for a good supply of pasture and range feed have further strengthened demand for stocker, feeder and breeding cattle.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1958

	<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>
Grand Island	0.35	Burwell	0.04	Chadron	0.14
Lincoln	0.20	North Platte	0.43	Imperial	0.33
Norfolk	0.24	Valentine	0.16	Scottsbluff	0.42
Omaha	0.01			Sidney	0.61
Sioux City	None				

# PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1958



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		March 25th		26th		27th		28th		29th		30th		31st	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	42	31	40	32	44	31	38	30	39	30	48	32	66	40
	Scottsbluff	41	27	47	31	49	33	43	28	34	30	48	28	65	35
	Sidney	40	27	43	27	39	31	46	25	32	29	37	26	53	31
NC	Burwell	46	22	--	--	--	32	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	--	--	45	34	43	32	36	32	42	35	46	31	54	35
NE	Norfolk	50	26	48	27	50	34	50	36	48	40	50	30	53	31
	Sioux City	--	--	49	30	50	33	51	36	52	40	53	34	55	30
Cen	Grand Island	48	28	48	30	48	35	48	36	--	--	48	27	50	30
EC	Lincoln	54	31	51	30	52	36	56	40	55	41	47	40	56	38
	Omaha	52	27	49	28	50	33	53	36	51	41	50	36	55	33
SW	Imperial	36	27	39	28	35	30	52	26	34	30	43	25	56	38
	North Platte	38	28	41	31	38	32	45	25	36	32	43	27	45	32

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